

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

House agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 2892, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S10443–S10497

Measures Introduced: Eight bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1788–1795. **Pages S10486–87**

Measures Reported:

S. 369, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 379, to provide fair compensation to artists for use of their sound recordings, with amendments.

S. 1793, to amend title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the program for providing life-saving care for those with HIV/AIDS. **Page S10486**

Measures Considered:

Medicare Physicians Fairness Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1776, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the update under the Medicare physician fee schedule for years beginning with 2010 and to sunset the application of the sustainable growth rate formula. **Page S10465**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, October 15, 2009, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, October 19, 2009; provided further, that at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, October 19, 2009, there be 60 minutes of debate, equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees, prior to the vote at 5:30 p.m. **Page S10465**

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn. **Page S10465**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 4:30 p.m., on Monday, October 19, 2009. **Pages S10465, S10495**

Conference Reports:

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act Conference Report: By 80 yeas to 17 nays (Vote No. 322), Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3183, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. **Pages S10462–64**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Brendan V. Johnson, of South Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota for the term of four years.

Karen Louise Loeffler, of Alaska, to be United States Attorney for the District of Alaska for the term of four years.

Steven Gerard O'Donnell, of Rhode Island, to be United States Marshal for the District of Rhode Island for the term of four years. **Pages S10495, S10497**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Clifford L. Stanley, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Jessie Hill Roberson, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2013.

Joseph F. Bader, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2012.

Peter Stanley Winokur, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2014.

Jill Long Thompson, of Indiana, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration, for a term expiring May 21, 2014.

Scott Boyer Quehl, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Scott Boyer Quehl, of Pennsylvania, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Commerce.

Charles P. Blahous III, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Charles P. Blahous III, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Charles P. Blahous III, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Robert D. Reischauer, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Robert D. Reischauer, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Robert D. Reischauer, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

Anne Slaughter Andrew, of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Costa Rica.

Lynnae M. Rutledge, of Washington, to be Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Department of Education.

Alan C. Kessler, of Pennsylvania, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2015.

35 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, and Navy.

Pages S10495–97

Messages from the House: **Page S10484**

Measures Referred: **Page S10484**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S10484**

Executive Communications: **Pages S10484–86**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S10486**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S10487–88**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S10488–94**

Additional Statements: **Pages S10483–84**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S10494**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Pages S10494–95**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S10495**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S10495**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—322) **Page S10464**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 5:59 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, October 19, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S10495.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: On Thursday, October 8, 2009, the following was listed in the Daily Digest:

On September 24, 2009, committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety and Security: Senators Dorgan (Chair), Inouye, Kerry, Boxer, Nelson (FL), Cantwell, Lautenberg, Pryor, McCaskill, Klobuchar, Warner, Begich, Snowe, Ensign, DeMint, Thune, Wicker, LeMieux, Isakson, Vitter, Brownback, and Johanns.

The following is the correct subcommittee membership:

Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety and Security: Senators Dorgan (Chair), Inouye, Kerry, Boxer, Nelson (FL), Cantwell, Lautenberg, Pryor, McCaskill, Klobuchar, Warner, Begich, DeMint, Snowe, Ensign, Thune, Wicker, LeMieux, Isakson, Vitter, Brownback, and Johanns.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Erroll G. Southers, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, Patrick Gallagher, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, who was introduced by Senator Udall (NM), and Paul K. Martin, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, and Elizabeth M. Robinson, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, who was introduced by Senator Cantwell, both of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jim R. Esquea, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation, who was introduced by Senator Conrad, Ellen Gloninger Murray, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Resources and Technology, who was introduced by Senator Harkin, and Bryan Hayes Samuels, of Illinois, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, all of the Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental Protection concluded a hearing to examine drought, flooding and refugees, focusing on the impacts of climate change, after receiving testimony from General Charles F. Wald, USAF (Ret.), former Deputy Commander of United States European Command, on behalf of the CNA Military Advisory Board; and Reverend Jim Ball, Evangelical Environmental Network, David Waskow, Oxfam America, Kenneth P. Green, American Enterprise Institute, and Peter O'Driscoll, ActionAid USA, all of Washington, D.C.

RADIO BROADCASTING IN WAR ZONES

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Human Rights, Democracy, and Global Women's Issues concluded a hearing to examine United States international broadcasting into the war zones, focusing on Iraq and Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from Jeffrey Hirschberg, Governor and Chair of the Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty Subcommittee, Joaquin Blaya, Governor and Chair of the Middle East Subcommittee, and Steven Simmons, Governor and Chair of the Voice of America Subcommittee, all of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, Washington, D.C.

DOMESTIC PARTNER BENEFITS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine do-

mestic partner benefits, including S. 1102, to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees, after receiving testimony from Representative Baldwin; John Berry, Director, United States Office of Personnel Management; and William H. Hendrix III, The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan.

HEALTH CARE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine equal health care for equal premiums, focusing on women, after receiving testimony from James Guest, Consumers Union, Yonkers, New York; Marcia D. Greenberger, National Women's Law Center, Janice Shaw Crouse, Concerned Women for America Beverly LaHaye Institute, Diana Furchtgott-Roth, Hudson Institute, and Karen Ignagni, America's Health Insurance Plans, all of Washington, D.C.; Amanda Buchanan, Weiser, Idaho; and Peggy Robertson, Centennial, Colorado.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 369, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 379, to provide fair compensation to artists for use of their sound recordings, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Jacqueline H. Nguyen and Dolly M. Gee, both to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Edward Milton Chen and Richard Seeborg, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 30 public bills, H.R. 3815–3844; and 12 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 200–201; and H. Res. 834–843 were introduced. **Pages H11456–58**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H11458–59**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 3583, to guide and provide for United States research, development, and demonstration of solar energy technologies, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–302). **Page H11456**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Edwards (MD) to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H11385**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend David Ferrell, Calvary Tabernacle, Perth-Andover, New Brunswick. **Page H11385**

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010—Conference Report: The House agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 2892, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, by a yea-and-nay vote of 307 yeas to 114 nays, Roll No. 784. **Pages H11389–H11410**

Rejected the Rogers (KY) motion to recommit the conference report accompanying the bill H.R. 2892 to the committee of conference with instructions to the managers on the part of the House by a yea-and-nay vote of 193 yeas to 224 nays, Roll No. 783. **Page H11409**

H. Res. 829, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 239 yeas to 174 nays, Roll No. 781, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 243 yeas to 173 nays, Roll No. 780. **Pages H11393–94**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Wednesday, October 14th:

Expressing sympathy for the citizens of the Philippines dealing with Tropical Storm Ketsana and Typhoon Parma: H. Res. 800, amended, to express sympathy for the citizens of the Philippines dealing with Tropical Storm Ketsana and Typhoon Parma, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ recorded vote of 415 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 782 and **Pages H11394–95**

George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse Designation Act: H.R. 2423,

amended, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the “George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse”, and to designate the jury room in that Federal building and United States courthouse as the “Marcel C. Notzon II Jury Room”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 421 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 785. **Pages H11410–11**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the ‘George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse’.”. **Page H11411**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Sherman, wherein he resigned from the Committee on the Judiciary, effective October 14, 2009. **Page H11395**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 834, electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives: Committee on the Judiciary: Representative Chu (to rank immediately after Representative Quigley). Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Representative Chu. **Page H11395**

Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Representatives Lewis (CA) and Shimkus. **Page H11419**

National Council on the Arts—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the National Council on the Arts: Representatives McCollum and Carnahan. **Page H11419**

Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program Expansion Act of 2009: The House passed H.R. 2442, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to expand the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program, by a yea-and-nay vote of 241 yeas to 173 nays, Roll No. 789. **Pages H11411–30**

Agreed to table the appeal of the ruling of the chair on a point of order sustained against the Nunes motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 176 nays, Roll No. 788. **Pages H11428–29**

H. Res. 830, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 221 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 787, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 178 nays, Roll No. 786.

Pages H11417–19

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20th for morning hour debate. Page H11432

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H11385 and H11419.

Senate Referrals: S. 1694 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce; S. 692 and S. Con. Res. 46 were held at the desk. Pages H11385, H11455

Quorum Calls—Votes: Nine yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H11393, H11394, H11394–95, H11409, H11410, H11410–11, H11417–18, H11418–19, H11428–29 and H11429. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DEFENSE CONTRACTING AND TAXPAYER PROTECTION

Committee on Armed Services, Defense Acquisition Reform Panel held a hearing on Can the Department of Defense Protect Taxpayers: When It Pays Its Contractors? Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Shay Assad, Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy; and April G. Stephenson, Director, Defense Contract Audit Agency; and Gregory D. Kutz, Managing Director, Forensic Affairs and Special Investigations, GAO.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 2994, amended, Satellite Home Viewer Reauthorization Act; H.R. 1147, Local Community Radio Act of 2009; H.R. 3633, Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Program Extension Act of 2009; and H.R. 3792, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection held a hearing on The Minority Business Development

Agency: Enhancing the Prospects for Success. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Commerce: Gary Locke, Secretary; and David Hinson, National Director, Minority Business Development Agency; and public witnesses.

PROBLEM OF UNDERINSURANCE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Insured But Not Covered: The Problem of Underinsurance.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVER-THE-COUNTER DERIVATIVES MARKETS ACT OF 2009

Committee on Financial Assistance: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 3795, To enact the over-the-Counter Derivatives Markets Act of 2009.

AFGHANISTAN POLICY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Held a hearing on Afghanistan Policy at the Crossroads. Testimony was heard from J. Alexander Thier, Director for Afghanistan and Pakistan, U.S. Institute of Peace; and public witnesses.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION ACT; DRUG POLICY IN THE AMERICAS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere approved for full Committee, as amended, H.R. 2134, Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission Act of 2009.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Assessing U.S. Drug Policy in the Americas. Testimony was heard from Representative Bono Mack; Mark Schneider, former Director, Peace Corps.

NOAA WATERSHED AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife held a hearing on H.R. 3644, Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Regional Program and National Environment Literacy Grant Program Act. Testimony was heard from Louisa Koch, Director, Officer of Education, NOAA, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

CLEAN WATER ACT AFTER 37 YEARS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on the Clean Water Act after 37 Years: Recommitting to the Protection of the Nation's Waters. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the EPA: Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator; and

Wade T. Najjum, Assistant Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General; Anu K. Mittal, Director, Natural Resources and Environment Team, GAO; and public witnesses.

POST-9/11 G.I. BILL STATUS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on VA Status Report on Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. Testimony was heard from Keith M. Wilson, Director, Office of Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

VA INAPPROPRIATE BILLING PRACTICES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on Identifying the Causes of Inappropriate Billing Practices by the VA. Testimony was heard from Kay Daly, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, GAO; Gary M. Baker, Chief Business Officer, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans; and representatives of veterans organizations.

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECONCILIATION LETTER

Committee on Ways and Means: Approved the reconciliation letter to the House Committee on the Budget.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1178)

S. 1707, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to promote an enhanced strategic partnership with Pakistan and its people, and for other purposes. Signed on October 15, 2009. (Public Law 111-73)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on H.R. 515, Radioactive Import Deterrence Act, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of October 19 through October 24, 2009

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at approximately 4:30 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1776, Medicare Physicians Fairness Act, and after a period of debate, vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Armed Services: October 22, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christine H. Fox, of Virginia, to be Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, Frank Kendall III, of Virginia, to be Deputy Under Secretary for Acquisition and Technology, Gladys Commons, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and Terry A. Yonkers, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: October 20, to hold hearings to examine the state of the nation's housing market, 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: October 21, Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine space, focusing on the value, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: October 21, to hold hearings to examine the costs and benefits for energy consumers and energy prices associated with the allocation of greenhouse gas emission allowances, 9:45 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: October 20, to hold hearings to examine S. 1631, to reauthorize customs facilitation and trade enforcement functions and programs, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: October 22, to hold hearings to examine the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), focusing on a strategic concept for transatlantic security, 10 a.m., SD-419.

October 22, Full Committee, to receive a briefing to examine Iran, 3 p.m., SVC-217.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: October 21, business meeting to consider the nominations of Craig Becker, of Illinois, Mark Gaston Pearce, of New York, and Brian Hayes, of Massachusetts, all to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, Rolena Klahn Adorno, of Connecticut, and Marvin Krislov, of Ohio, both to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities, Gloria Valencia-Weber, of New Mexico, Julie A. Reiskin, of Colorado, Martha L. Minow, of Illinois, John Gerson Levi, of Illinois, and Robert James Grey, Jr., of Virginia, all to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation, and David Morris Michaels, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of

Labor for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 10 a.m., SD-430.

October 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine keeping America's families safe, focusing on reforming the food safety system, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: October 20, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Susan Tsui Grundmann, of Virginia, to be Chairman, and Anne Marie Wagner, of Virginia, to be a Member, both of the Merit Systems Protection Board, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

October 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine H1N1 flu, focusing on monitoring the nation's response, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

October 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the past, present, and future of policy czars, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: October 22, business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine Indian energy and energy efficiency, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: October 20, Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts, to hold hearings to examine medical debt, focusing on bankruptcy reform, 10 a.m., SD-226.

October 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine effective strategies for preventing health care fraud, 10 a.m., SD-226.

October 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jane Branstetter Stranch, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, and Benjamin B. Tucker, of New York, to be Deputy Director for State, Local, and Tribal Affairs, Office of National Drug Control Policy, 2 p.m., SD-226.

October 22, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 448 and H.R. 985, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S. 1340, to establish a minimum funding level for programs under the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 for fiscal years 2010 to 2014 that ensures a reasonable growth in victim programs without jeopardizing the long-term sustainability of the Crime Victims Fund, and S. 714, to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: October 20, to hold hearings to examine health care solutions for America's small businesses, 10:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: October 21, to hold hearings to examine S. 977, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide improved benefits for veterans who are former prisoners of war, S. 1109, to provide veterans with individualized notice about available benefits, to streamline application processes of the benefits, S. 1118, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase in the amount of monthly dependency and indemnity compensation payable to surviving spouses by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, S. 1155, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the position of Director of Physician Assistant Services within the office of the Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for health, S. 1204,

to amend the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Enhancement Act of 2001 to require the provision of chiropractic care and services to veterans at all Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers, S. 1237, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the grant program for homeless veterans with special needs to include male homeless veterans with minor dependents and to establish a grant program for reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children, S. 1302, to provide for the introduction of pay-for-performance compensation mechanisms into contracts of the Department of Veterans Affairs with community-based outpatient clinics for the provisions of health care services, S. 1394, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to acknowledge the receipt of medical, disability, and pension claims and other communications submitted by claimants, S. 1427, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Hospital Quality Report Card Initiative to report on health care quality in Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, S. 1429, to establish a commission on veterans and members of the Armed Forces with post traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or other mental health disorders, to enhance the capacity of mental health care providers to assist such veterans and members, to ensure such veterans are not discriminated against, S. 1444, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the meaning of "combat with the enemy" for purposes of service-connection of disabilities, S. 1467, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide coverage under Traumatic Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance for adverse reactions to vaccinations administered by the Department of Defense, S. 1483, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Alexandria, Minnesota, as the "Max J. Beilke Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic", S. 1518, to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to veterans who were stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, while the water was contaminated at Camp Lejeune, S. 1531, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish within the Department of Veterans Affairs the position of Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction, S. 1547, to amend title 38, United States Code, and the United States Housing Act of 1937 to enhance and expand the assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness, S. 1556, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be designated as voter registration agencies, S. 1607, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for certain rights and benefits for persons who are absent from positions of employment to receive medical treatment for service-connected disabilities, and S. 1668, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of certain active duty service in the reserve components as qualifying service for purposes of Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program, and any pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: October 20, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community, 2:30 p.m., S-407, Capitol.

October 22, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., S-407, Capitol.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, October 21, to consider derivatives legislation; and to approve the Dunloup Creek Watershed of West Virginia and the Cape Cod Watershed of Massachusetts projects, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

October 21, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops and Foreign Agriculture, hearing to examine U.S. Department of Agriculture rural business programs, conditions for rural entrepreneurship and business development, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

October 22, Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy and Poultry, hearing to review the economic conditions facing the pork industry, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Armed Services, October 21, hearing on U.S. Military Redeployment from Iraq: Issues and Challenges, 10 a.m., 210 HVC.

October 22, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Afghanistan and Iraq: Perspectives on U.S. Strategy, 2 p.m., 210 HVC.

October 22, Subcommittee on Terrorism Threats and Capabilities, hearing on counterterrorism within the Afghanistan counterinsurgency, 10 a.m., 210 HVC.

Committee on the Budget, October 21, hearing on the Defense Costs and Long-Term Fiscal Challenges, 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, October 20, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on H.R. 2708, Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments of 2009, 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

October 20, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "The High Cost of Small Business Health Insurance: Limited Options, Limited Coverage," 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, hearing entitled "Video Competition in a Digital Age," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, October 21, hearing on U.S. Policy Toward Burma, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

October 21, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, hearing on International Violence Against Women: Stories and Solutions, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, hearing on Concerns Regarding Possible Collusion in Northern Ireland: Police and Paramilitary Groups, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, October 21, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing on Modernizing the Election Registration Process, 1 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, October 20, Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy, hearing on Examining the State of Judicial Recusals after *Caperton v. A.T. Massey*, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

October 20, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, hearing on Girls in the Juvenile Justice System: Strategies to Help Girls Achieve Their Full Potential, 2:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on Too Big to Fail: The Role for Bankruptcy and Antitrust Law in Financial Regulation Reform, 11 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, October 20, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, hearing on the following bill: H.R. 1672, Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Authorization Act of 2009; and H.R. 2548, Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act of 2009, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

October 21, full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2523, Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership Act or the HEARTH Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

October 22, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, hearing on H.R. 3770, To make technical corrections to subtitle A of title VII of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, October 20, Subcommittee on Policy, Census, and National Archives, hearing entitled: "National Archives: Advisory Committees and their Effectiveness," 2 p.m. Rayburn.

October 21, Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives, hearing entitled: "The 2010 Census Master Address File: Issues and Concerns," 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

October 22, full Committee, and the Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, joint hearing entitled "Bank of America and Merrill Lynch: How Did a Private Deal Turn Into a Federal Bailout? Part IV," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, October 21, to consider pending legislation, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

October 21, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on Biomass for Thermal Energy and Electricity Through a Research and Development Portfolio for the Future, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, hearing on Engineering in K-12 Education, 10 a.m., 2325 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing on Strengthening NASA's Technology Development Programs, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, hearing on Cybersecurity Activity at NIST's Information Technology Laboratory, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, October 20, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, hearing on Looking Out for the Very Young, the Elderly and Others with Special Needs: Lessons from Katrina and Other Major Disasters, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

October 21, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing on Addressing the Problem of Distracted Driving, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, October 22, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing on administration of the

first-time homebuyer tax credit, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, October 22, Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management, hearing regarding the statutory requirements for congressional notifications of intelligence activities, 10 a.m., to be announced.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, October 22, hearing entitled “Building U.S. Resilience to Global Warming Impacts,” 9:30 a.m., to be announced.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: October 22, to hold hearings to examine the economic outlook, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon Building.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: October 22, to receive a briefing on new media in authoritarian regimes, 2 p.m., 1539 Longworth Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, October 19

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Friday, October 16

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 4:30 p.m.), Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1776, Medicare Physicians Fairness Act, and after a period of debate, vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 11 a.m.

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